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Recycling - Good for Your Business, Good for the Environment

A Publication of the Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program

# Local Focus County Honors Sunnyy

### County Honors Sunnyvale Green Businesses

During Santa Clara County's annual Green Business awards ceremony, County Supervisor Mike Wasserman awarded commendations to Sunnyvale businesses that include Country Inn & Suites, For Other Living Things, Labcyte, NetApp, Promega Biosystems, Sunnyvale Lumber, SMaRT Station® Offices, Victoria Armigo, EA and the City of Sunnyvale Civic Center, Library, Community and Senior Centers.

The California Green Business
Program leads the state and nation
in working with businesses to grow a
vibrant and healthy green economy.
Green Businesses contribute to more
livable communities with healthier
environments, while conserving
resources and saving money. More
than forty Sunnyvale businesses
have achieved certification through
this free program.

For a complete list of all Sunnyvale Green Businesses, or, if interested in becoming one, visit *greenbusinessca.org*. Call (408) 282-3180 for more information.



Sunnyvale Library Director Lisa Rosenblum Receives Special Commendation.

# City Program Rain Barrel Rebate for Businesses

In October, the City of Sunnyvale, in partnership with the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, started offering rebates to users of rain barrels as part of a program encouraging everyone to conserve drinking water and use other sources for landscaping.

Sunnyvale will offer \$50 rebates per barrel, up to two barrels per household for residents, or four for commercial properties. Barrels must be purchased between now and June 30, 2015, and maintained for at least three years after receipt of the rebate. Go to *WaterConservation*. *InSunnyvale.com* to apply.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



## **Business Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events**

#### **November 14, No December Events**

In addition to Sunnyvale's site, a new permanent collection site in San Jose is now open. Qualifying businesses may drop off items on scheduled weekday dates at the new facility. Participation is by appointment only.

To schedule at any location call (408) 299-7300 or hhw.org.

#### West 2014 Summit

This year's West 2014 Summit, themed "Net Positive: A Call to Action," will focus on how businesses and cities in the Valley can aim for a net positive future, generating more renewable energy than we use, sequestering more carbon than we emit and using local water resources.

The conference is Wednesday, November 19, from 1:00 – 6:30 pm at Lucie Stern Community Center, Palo Alto. Visit *sustainablesv.org* to register.

#### **Mark Your Calendar!**

#### **Cool California Awards**

The CoolCalifornia Small Business
Awards program recognizes California
small businesses that take action to
reduce their greenhouse gas emissions,
promote climate friendly practices
and integrate the tools provided by
CoolCalifornia.org into their business
operations. Check it out and save
money! For more information visit
CoolCalifornia.org. Application period
closes November 1, 2014.

#### **Business Environmental Awards**

2015 marks the 25th anniversary of the Business Environmental Awards, one of the oldest and most prestigious environmental recognition programs. The program celebrates the accomplishments of businesses with innovative, sustainable programs. Recent past winners include Adobe Systems, Solazyme, NASA, Symantec, Clif Bar and the Humane Society of Silicon Valley. Applications are due by December 5, 2014. Apply at Acterra.org.

# Recycle It! New Green Products

An easy way to incorporate sustainability into your business is to use recycled content products. Typically, retail point of sale displays, store signage and even Hollywood movie sets are made of wood or non-renewable materials, such as aluminum and plastic. Finding sustainable replacements for non-recyclable foamcore and vinyl boards is even more challenging. One California company, San Diego-based Noble Environmental, manufactures products made from 100% recycled content

material. Their ECOR® line received Cradle2Cradle as well as USDA Certified 100% Biobased Product Certifications. To see the product in action, visit any area Whole Foods store. Whole Foods purchases the flat panels, prints their custom art on the material and then fabricates three-dimensional signs. And, at end of life, when most products like this end up in a landfill, Noble Environmental is scaling up to take its products back for recycling.

For more information go to *Ecorusa.com*.

#### **Business Recycling Solutions**

Subscribe to Business Recycling Solutions online at *Recycling.inSunnyvale.com*.

Please send all comments and questions to: (408) 730-7484, TDD (408) 730-7501 or mlindemuth@sunnyvale.ca.gov

Product and company listings should not be construed as an endorsement by the City of Sunnyvale.

#### **Contact Information**

#### City of Sunnyvale

Assistance with Commercial Recycling Recycling.inSunnyvale.com (408) 730-7484

#### Garbage

New commercial accounts, service changes, billing, bin cleaning (408) 730-7400

Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling
To Set Up Cardboard Recycling Service
(408) 566-1804

Printed on 100% Recycled Content Paper, 50% Post Consumer Waste, with Soy-based Ink.

Answers to Your Recycling Questions: Free Paint Drop-Off

Rain Barrel Rebates

New Green Products

Business Hazardous Waste Drop Off Events

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## Your Inquiries

## **Q** We have a lot of leftover paint in our storage room. Where can we recycle it?

October 19 marks the end of the second year of California's new paint take-back program, PaintCare, which allows free, convenient paint drop off at participating retail stores. Visit Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste at hhw.org and click on New Paint Takeback

Program to find participating local stores. Due to the overwhelming response to the program, please call the site ahead of time to make sure they are able to accept your paint.



If you have large volumes of unwanted paint, PaintCare now offers a free and convenient collection service. This service is available to residents or businesses with at least 300 gallons of paint. Go to *Paintcare.org* to schedule a pick up.

## What happens to the paint?

ost of the paint is reprocessed into new paint, given away for reuse or sold at nonprofit ReStores such as the ones operated by Habitat for Humanity.